

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-04 COME-00 DODE-00

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSF-02 INT-05 DLOS-06 SMI-01

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DRAFTED BY OES/OFA/MST:WERB:MJB

APPROVED BY OES/OFA/MST:WERB

ARA/CAR - JTHYDEN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

INFO AMEMBASSY NASSAU

UNCLAS STATE 206237

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCLR, TGEN, TPHY, TBIO, EFIS, UK, DR

SUBJECT: R/V WESTWARD CLEARANCE REQUEST, 13 OCT 1976 -
12 JAN 1977

1. R/V WESTWARD IS A SAILING VESSEL OPERATED BY THE
SAILING EDUCATION ASSOCIATION (SEA) WHICH IS UNDERTAKING
A TRAINING CRUISE THAT INCLUDES SOME RESEARCH TO BE PER-
FORMED IN COOPERATION WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND.
THE PORTION OF THE CRUISE OFF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC WILL
TAKE PLACE FROM 10-25 NOV 1976 AND FROM 15-30 DEC 1976
AND RESEARCH OFF GRAND TURK WILL BE FROM 27 DEC 1976 -
3 JAN 1977.

2. OBJECTIVES ARE TO CONDUCT STUDENT TRAINING PROJECTS
INVOLVING OCEANOGRAPHY, IN ADDITION TO ACTUAL OCEANO-
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GRAPHIC AND FISHERIES RESEARCH. THE MIGRATION, MATING, AND

CALVING BEHAVIOR OF HUMPBACK WHALES AS WELL AS UNDERWATER RECORDINGS OF SOUNDS PRODUCED BY THE WHALES WILL BE CONDUCTED. SHARK TAGGING WILL BE CONDUCTED AND SAMPLES OF SHARK BLOOD WILL BE TAKEN AND SENT TO THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH FOR ANALYSIS. ALSO, A GENERAL STUDY OF THE DISTRIBUTION, BEHAVIOR, AND RELATION TO THE ENVIRONMENT OF MARINE MAMMALS IN THE CARIBBEAN AND BAHAMAS WILL BE CONDUCTED. THE OCEANOGRAPHIC OBSERVATIONS WILL BE TAKEN BY BATHYTHERMOGRAPHS, GRAB SAMPLERS, SMALL CORING DEVICES AND NANSEN BOTTLE ARRAYS.

3. (A) R/V WESTWARD'S ITINERARY IS AS FOLLOWS:

---WOODS HOLE, MASS.-----13 OCT 76
---ST. GEORGE'S, BERMUDA-----1-3 NOV
---PUERTO PLATA, DOMINICAN REP.---16-18 NOV
---SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO-----24 NOV
---SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO-----01 DEC
---MAYAGUEZ, PUERTO RICO-----13-15 DEC
---GRAND TURK-----30 DEC - 1 JAN 77
---MIAMI, FLORIDA-----12 JAN

---(B) EMBASSY IN DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IS REQUESTED TO SEEK PORT CALL CLEARANCES FOR PUERTO PLATA. OTHER PORT CALLS WILL BE ARRANGED BY THE SHIP'S AGENTS.

---(C) A SHIP'S TRACK WILL BE FORWARDED SEPARATELY AND RESEARCH WILL BE CONDUCTED RANDOMLY ALONG TRACK. WESTWARD MAY APPROACH WITHIN ONE MILE OF GRAND TURK AND DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

4. ALL DATA RESULTS WILL BE SHARED WITH THE HOST COUNTRIES AND ONLY ONE BERTH IS AVAILABLE FOR FOREIGN PARTICIPANTS DUE TO THE SMALL SIZE OF VESSEL. WESTWARD IS 240 GROSS TONS, 120 FT LONG, AND HAS A 13 FT DRAFT. WALLACE STARK IS THE SHIP'S CAPTAIN AND THERE IS A CREW OF 28 AND SCIENTIFIC PARTY OF 3. THE CHIEF SCIENTIST IS DR. JAMES H. W. HAIN OF SEA. VESSEL'S CALL SIGN IS WZL 8190 AND MONITORS SSB AND VHF CHANNELS.

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5. ACTION: EMBASSIES ARE REQUESTED TO SEEK CLEARANCE FOR WESTWARD TO CONDUCT RESEARCH WITHIN THE TERRITORIAL WATERS AND ON THE CONTINENTAL SHELVES OF GRAND TURK AND DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. PORT CALL IS REQUESTED AS STATED IN PARA 3(B). ROBINSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RESEARCH, ITINERARY, WESTWARD R/V, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), PORT CLEARANCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE206237
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WERB:MJB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760318-0791
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760837/aaaabgey.tel
Line Count: 112
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN OES
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 FEB 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 FEB 2004 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <26 JAN 2005 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: R/V WESTWARD CLEARANCE REQUEST, 13 OCT 1976 - 12 JAN 1977
TAGS: OCLR, TGEN, TPHY, TBIO, EFIS, UK, DR
To: LONDON
SANTO DOMINGO
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006